CLAIMS

1. A connector for connecting a first tubular to a second tubular; the connector comprising a first portion on the first tubular and a second portion on the second tubular, wherein the first and second portions each have axially extending portions which in the assembled connector are mutually parallel.

2. A connector as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the first and second portions have mutually engaging threaded portions.

3. A connector as claimed in Claim 2 wherein the axially extending portions are unthreaded.

4. A connector as claimed in Claim 3 wherein the axially extending portions are load-bearing and allow the transfer of loads between the tubulars.

5. A connector as claimed in Claim 4 wherein two axially extending portions are provided on each tubular.

6. A connector as claimed in Claim 5 wherein the first axially extending portion on each tubular is greater in length than the second axially extending portion on each tubular.

7. A connector as claimed in Claim 6 wherein the axially extending portions on each tubular are provided above and below the threaded portion.

8. A connector as claimed in Claim 7 wherein a spigot and a socket comprise the axially extending portions on each tubular.

9. A connector as claimed in Claim 8 wherein the spigot is provided between the tubular's threaded face and terminus.

10. A connector as claimed in Claim 9 wherein the spigot on the first tubular engages the socket on the second tubular.

11. A connector as claimed in Claim 10 wherein the spigot on the second tubular engages the socket on the second tubular.

12. A connector as claimed in Claim 11 wherein the first tubular comprises a pin connector.

13. A connector as claimed in Claim 12 wherein the second tubular comprises a box connector.

14. A connector as claimed in Claim 13 wherein the socket of the first tubular and spigot on the second tubular are greater in length than the socket of the second tubular and spigot of the first tubular.

15. A connector as claimed in Claim 14 wherein the axially extending portions are parallel to the axis of the tubulars.

16. A connector as claimed in Claim 15 wherein the first and second tubulars have a tapered profile.

17. A connector as claimed in Claim 16 wherein the tapered portions of the first and second tubulars are the threaded portions of the first and second tubulars and have co-operating tapers to facilitate mating of the two portions.

18. A method for connecting a first tubular to a second tubular the method comprising the steps of-

gripping a first tubular at a position spaced from its terminus;

engaging the first and second tubulars;

gripping the second tubular; and

applying torque between the tubulars.